

Solon Township Board  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, February 9, 2023 7:00 P.M  
Solon Township Hall  
9191 S. Kasson St., Cedar, MI 49621

MINUTES

**1. Call to Order**

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Supervisor Jim Lautner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board members present: Supervisor Jim Lautner, Treasurer Joan Gauthier, Clerk Shirley Mikowski, Trustee Steve Yoder and Trustee Pat Deering.

Guests present: Nancy Popa, Dale Gauthier, Todd Yeomans, Al Laskey, Grace Yoder, Kelly Claar and Chris Comeaux.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Shirley Mikowski and seconded by Joan Gauthier to approve the agenda with the addition between 6 and 7: Recognition of Al Laskey. Motion carried 5-0.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Steve Yoder and seconded by Joan Gauthier to approve the January 12, 2023 regular meeting minutes as written. Motion carried 5-0.

**5. Public Comment**

Al Laskey advised the township board to consider approving the Landscape Ordinance as written. Mr. Laskey noted the Planning Commission spent many months on it. He also thanked the board for keeping the township in the black.

Jim Lautner said the Landscape Ordinance needs to be simplified; most of the businesses in Cedar would not be able to expand their business without a waiver. Jim is not in favor of waivers.

**6. Correspondence**

There was none.

**Recognition of Al Laskey**

Steve Yoder shared that Tuesday at the Planning Commission meeting, they had cake and took ten minutes to celebrate Al Laskey and to recognize him for serving the township for 24 years. Steve then presented Mr. Laskey with a Certificate of Appreciation that was signed by Supervisor Jim Lautner and Planning Commission Chair Steve Morgan, a thank you card signed by the board members and a bag of goodies. There was a press release in today's Leelanau Enterprise regarding Mr. Laskey's service. The township board shared their gratitude for Mr. Laskey's service to the township.

**7. Treasurer's Report/Authorization for Payment of Vouchers:**

Shirley Mikowski reported Tobin and Company are updating the township's chart of accounts which is required to be complete by the end of this fiscal year. Chris Comeaux said he was pleased at how fast and efficient the fire department roof got done. All of the plywood had to be replaced and the roof came under budget. Joan Gauthier reported she had contacted Huntington Bank several times and now they are finally paying interest on all of the saving accounts. Huntington Bank Checking \$164,341.63, ARPA Funds included in checking: \$116,581.12, Available in Checking Account: \$47,760.51, Huntington Bank General Savings \$47,973.03, Total Funds Available: \$95,733.54, Huntington Bank Road Improvement Fund \$10,346.71, Huntington Bank Fire Fund CD \$42,721.65, Huntington Bank Fire Fund Savings \$37,692.53, Total Fire Sinking \$80,414.18, Huntington Bank Sidewalk Fund

\$13,288.38, Huntington Bank Cedar River Marina Project \$24,269.87, Total other Township Funds Available: \$128,319.14. Total Current Assets: \$224,052.68, Parks and Recreation \$9,465.10. Voucher #'s 14847-14873 were submitted for payment. Motion by Steve Yoder and seconded by Pat Deering to accept the Treasurer's report and pay vouchers as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

### **8. Committee Reports:**

Steve Yoder reported on the Planning Commission meeting held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023. All members and ten guests were present.

- Worked on goals for the upcoming year.
- A notice of intent updating the Master Plan had been sent out, but Leelanau County said they never received one. New notices will be sent out and sent certified mail as with all future notices.
- The Planning Commission want to know what is going to happen with the fence by the recycling site. Jim Lautner said the township owns the fence and is waiting to hear from Trudy Galla to see if they were going to use the fence.
- A Public Hearing is scheduled for the March meeting to have a Site Plan Review for the recycling site at Bunting's Cedar Market. A temporary permit has been issued that is good for 90 days. Jim Lautner questioned why it was necessary to have a Site Plan Review and will be contacting Tim Cypher/ZA.
- They have begun working on the Master Plan, which is presently at 36 pages, but anticipates it to be at least 100 pages. They are using Centerville Township's Master Plan as a template.

Kelly Claar reported the Parks and Recreation Committee met on Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. There were four members and five guests present.

- The public provided a lot of input on the parks.
- Fleis&Vandenbrink did not charge for Brian Rowley attending the Public Forum.
- They have a list of items for the parks they would like to purchase.
- An email was received from Allison Bebe who is the coordinator for Cedar Ball Leagues. They would like a shade structure over the dugout at the far (swamp) diamond. She also wants to make sure diamonds one, two and three will be mowed and weeded. The T-Ball field will be taken care of by Ron Novak.
- Mary Taylor would like to apply for the Rotary Seed Grant and needs the township board approval to proceed. Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve to authorize Mary Taylor to apply for the Rotary Seed Grant with a 25% match (mix of cash and Kind) with the financial match to be paid from the Parks and Recreation Fund of \$9,465.10. Motion carried 5-0.
- There will be a movie night Saturday, February 18, 2023 at the Solon Township Hall. There will be two movies shown; Snow White at 3:00 P.M., and Family Camp at 6:00 P.M. They will also be showing the Cedar River video in between. The movies are free to attend and the committee will be providing refreshments for a donation.
- The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at the Solon Township Hall.

**Zoning Administrator Written Report is attached.**

### **9. Unfinished Business**

#### **A. Township Hall/Repairs**

There was no report.

#### **B. Parks**

Dale Gauthier shared concerns that part of a fence was taken down by the Solon Beach Park. A road was made into the park where the fence was and somebody has been four wheeling and making a mess. Kelly Claar thought the DNR should be contacted. Jim Lautner said Tim Cypher/ZA needs to look into it. Kelly said she would check with the rowers to see if their cameras are on. Jim said the township may need to purchase a trail camera and have it put up so we can see what is going on.

Joan Gauthier said there are trees hanging down at the Solon Beach Park that need to be addressed.

### **C. Fire Department**

Chris Comeaux gave the following report:

- Chief Doornbos, Tim Stein, Greg Julian, Jim Schwantes and Chris Comeaux met in January to begin working on the Interlocal Agreement.
- The budget is currently at 77% which will allow some payment back to the Capital Fund.
- The backup ambulance is on its last legs so it has been approved to order a new ambulance from Road Rescue for \$393,811.00. It will take 2-3 years to get the new ambulance once the contract is signed.

#### **1. Roof**

See under 7. Treasurer's Report/Authorization for Payment of Vouchers.

#### **2. Hiring**

They will be hiring three full time members bringing the staff to nine excluding the Fire Chief. They have seven applicants and interviews are scheduled for Wednesday, January 22, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

### **D. Cedar River Project**

#### **1. Buoys**

There was no report.

### **E. Zoning Ordinance**

Steve Yoder said that Tim Cypher/ZA is working with the township attorney to update the old Landscape Ordinance. This item will be removed from the agenda.

### **F. Drainage District**

Jim Lautner said he attended the Day of Review at the Leelanau County Government Center that was held on Thursday, January 19, 2023. Jim told them he did not like the program but there is nothing we can do about it. He did ask Steve Christensen what if the township won't pay and he did not have an answer. Solon Township's estimated total assessment is \$77,400.00 with an estimated annual assessment of \$3,870.00 over a 20 year period for a total of 24 land owners. The landowners will also be paying an assessment. They have plans to build it this summer so the assessment will have to be placed on the tax bills.

### **G. Boat Wash Station/Cedar River**

Nancy Popa provided pictures of where the boat wash station will be placed and where the spray water will go into the ground. Mrs. Popa contacted EGLE about obtaining a ground water permit for the site and they told her that it would not be a problem. Joan Gauthier and Jim Lautner shared their concerns of it being wetlands in that area. The other option would be placing the boat wash station by the old recycling site. The Lake Leelanau Lake Association will operate, provide the maintenance and pay for all of the maintenance costs. The Cedar River Waterway Committee have agreed to build the unit and Mrs. Popa and her husband will help. The cost of the boat wash station at the Narrows was \$29,000.00 which would be approximately \$5,300.00 per township. If the cost is \$40,000.00 it would cost each participating township approximately \$8,500.00. Mrs. Popa said the question is if Solon Township wants a boat wash station and is willing to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the other townships. The agreement would include how much each township will have to pay. Joan Gauthier asked if the township would have any additional costs, and Mrs. Popa said they would not. Mrs. Popa had a draft resolution for the board members to review. The boat wash station will be put on the agenda for the budget meeting.

### **H. Grant Options/Mary Taylor**

See under 8. Committee Reports.

### **I. Public Forums/Fleis&Vandenbrink**

See under 8. Committee Reports.

## **J. Ballfields**

Shirley Mikowski contacted several people regarding the use of the ballfields. She still needs to do a little more research and will have a report for the budget meeting. A discussion was held regarding the Cedar Chamber of Commerce's responsibility with the ballfields based on minutes from 1998. A zero turn mower has been ordered, so the mowing of the township ball fields is covered.

## **K. Cemetery Clean Up**

Joan Gauthier explained that on December 30, 2022 a big pine tree came down in the cemetery. John Hitt removed the tree and cleaned up the site. Mr. Hitt will be cutting up the wood and hauling it away in the spring. Joan is requesting Mr. Hitt be paid \$300.00 for his services. Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to approve to pay John Hitt \$300.00 for removing and cleaning up the downed pine tree in the cemetery. Motion carried 5-0.

Dale Gauthier asked if it would be okay to have a burn pile by the cemetery. It is okay but he needs to check with the neighbor and take the necessary precautions when burning.

## **10. New Business**

### **A. Parks Committee Appointment**

Motion by Jim Lautner and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve to appoint Kim Smith to the Parks and Recreation Committee with the term expiring December 31, 2023. Motion carried 5-0.

### **B. Property Use Agreement**

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Steve Yoder to approve the Property Use Agreement for Sports League Activities for the Brian's Memorial Tournament with Rich Nachazel being the applicant for the use of the ball fields on February 24, 2023 and February 25, 2023. Motion carried 5-0

### **C. Salary Resolution**

The salary resolutions for 2023-2024 are as follows:

Moved by Shirley Mikowski and supported by Joan Gauthier to adopt by resolution for the Supervisor's annual salary to remain at \$10,000.00. Upon a roll call vote; Deering-yea, Yoder-yea, Lautner-yea, Gauthier-yea, Mikowski-yea 5 "yeas", 0 "nays". Resolution dully adopted.

Moved by Shirley Mikowski and supported by Jim Lautner to adopt by resolution for the Treasurer's annual salary to increase by \$1,000.00 bringing it to \$17,000.00. Upon a roll call vote; Deering-yea, Yoder-yea, Lautner-yea, Gauthier-yea, Mikowski-yea 5 "yeas", 0 "nays". Resolution dully adopted.

Moved by Joan Gauthier and supported by Jim Lautner to adopt by resolution for the Clerk's annual salary to increase by \$500.00 bringing it to \$19,000.00. Upon a roll call vote; Deering-yea, Yoder-yea, Lautner-yea, Gauthier-yea, Mikowski-yea 5 "yeas", 0 "nays". Resolution dully adopted.

Moved by Jim Lautner and supported by Steve Yoder to adopt by resolution for the Trustee's per diem to remain at \$105.00 per diem. Upon a roll call vote; Deering-yea, Yoder-yea, Lautner-yea, Gauthier-yea, Mikowski-yea 5 "yeas", 0 "nays". Resolution dully adopted.

Upon approval at the Annual Meeting the salaries will be as follows: Supervisor-\$10,000.00, Treasurer-\$17,000.00, Clerk-\$19,000.00 and Trustees-\$105.00 per diem.

### **D. Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday March 25, 2023 at 10:00 A.M at the Solon Township Hall.

### **E. Budget Meeting**

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Jim Lautner to hold the budget workshop meeting on Thursday, March

16, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the Solon Township Hall. Motion carried 5-0.

**F. Fiscal Year Schedule of Meetings**

Motion by Jim Lautner and seconded by Joan Gauthier to approve the following meeting schedule for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 for the Solon Township Board as follows: The Solon Township Board will meet at 7:00 P.M. on the second Thursday of every month (unless noted) at the Solon Township Hall on the following dates: April 20, May 11, June 8, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 12, November 9, December 14, 2023 and January 11, February 8, March 14, 2024 and Annual Meeting Saturday, March 30, 2024. Motion carried 5-0.

**11. Public Comment**

Kelly Claar asked if there will be a discussion of the ARPA Funds at the budget meeting and there will. Kelly added the Leelanau Conservation District is having their annual seedling sale. You can place your order online and they are accepting orders until April 6, 2023.

**12. Announcements**

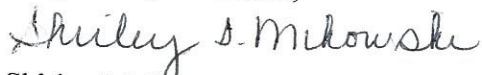
There was none.

**13. Adjournment**

Motion by Joan Gauthier and seconded by Shirley Mikowski to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Shirley I. Mikowski  
Solon Township Clerk

# SOLON TOWNSHIP ZA'S MONTHLY PERMIT SUMMARY

PERIOD: JANUARY 2023

DATE	PERMIT #	NAME	USE	RECEIPT CK.#	AMOUNT
010-011-010-00	1/21/2023 LUP 23-02 6888 E. BIRCH POINT RD.	KENNEDY	LAND USE	202302	1822 \$ 90.00
		ACCESSORY BUILDING - GARAGE		2,100 S.F.	
010-032-005-50	1/21/2023 LUP 23-03 132230 S. PARTRIDGE RUN	ARCHER	LAND USE	202303	45490 \$ 50.00
		ACCESSORY BUILDING - GARAGE		936 S.F.	
010-034-004-00 010-034-004-20	1/16/2023 PLA 23-01 S. SOLON ROAD	FABER - MCLAIN	PROP. LINE	PLA23-01 PENDING	\$50.00
		PROPERTY LINE ADJUSTMENT FOR ADJOINING PARCELS			

TOTAL \$ 190.00

SIGNED:

*Timothy A. Cypher*

DATE:

2/4/2023

TIMOTHY A. CYPHER  
 SOLON TOWNSHIP ZONING ADMINISTRATOR  
 231-360-2557  
[TIM@ALLPERMITS.COM](mailto:TIM@ALLPERMITS.COM)

Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary  
Resolution No. 2023-02-09-1  
Township of Solon

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 41.95 authorizes the Township Board of Solon Township to determine the salaries for the offices of Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Trustee for the fiscal year 2023-2024 by adopting a resolution for each office at least 30 days prior to the Township Annual Meeting of the electors, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) is warranted in consideration of the increase in the cost of living and/or additional responsibilities undertaken by the (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) since the Township Board members' salaries were last adjusted, now

BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2023, the salary of the office of (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) shall be as follows:

Supervisor: \$10,000.00

Treasurer:

Clerk:

Trustee:

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be submitted to the electors at the Annual Meeting to be held on March 25, 2023, at which time the electors may modify these amounts. Pursuant to MCL 41.95(7), such modification(s) that may be made by the electors cannot result in a reduction of salary during an official's term of office unless the responsibilities and requirements of that office are diminished, and the official agrees in writing to that reduction. In the event that the electors fail to act on this resolution, the officer shall be entitled to the salary as established in this resolution, accordance with the state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, adopted on February 9, 2023 is properly adopted by the Solon Township Board at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, as required by law.

This resolution offered by board member Shirley Mikowski

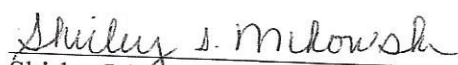
Supported by board member Joan Gauthier

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted:

Pat Deering-aye, Steve Yoder-aye, James Lautner-aye, Joan Gauthier-aye, Shirley Mikowski-aye,  
5-ayes and 0-nays

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2023 the Township Board adopted a resolution to hold the Township Annual meeting on March 25, 2023, and

The Supervisor, James C. Lautner declared the resolution adopted.



Shirley I. Mikowski  
Solon Township Clerk

Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary  
Resolution No. 2023-02-09-2  
Township of Solon

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 41.95 authorizes the Township Board of Solon Township to determine the salaries for the offices of Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Trustee for the fiscal year 2023-2024 by adopting a resolution for each office at least 30 days prior to the Township Annual Meeting of the electors, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) is warranted in consideration of the increase in the cost of living and/or additional responsibilities undertaken by the (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) since the Township Board members' salaries were last adjusted, now

BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2023, the salary of the office of (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) shall be as follows:

Supervisor:

Treasurer: \$17,000.00

Clerk:

Trustee:

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be submitted to the electors at the Annual Meeting to be held on March 25, 2023, at which time the electors may modify these amounts. Pursuant to MCL 41.95(7), such modification(s) that may be made by the electors cannot result in a reduction of salary during an official's term of office unless the responsibilities and requirements of that office are diminished, and the official agrees in writing to that reduction. In the event that the electors fail to act on this resolution, the officer shall be entitled to the salary as established in this resolution, accordance with the state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, adopted on February 9, 2023 is properly adopted by Solon Township Board at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, as required by law.

This resolution offered by board member Shirley Mikowski

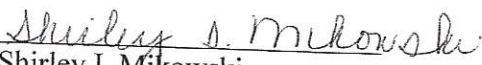
Supported by board member Jim Lautner

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted:

Pat Deering-aye, Steve Yoder-aye, James Lautner-aye, Joan Gauthier-aye, Shirley Mikowski-aye,  
5-ayes and 0-nays

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2023 the Township Board adopted a resolution to hold the Township Annual meeting on March 25, 2023, and

The Supervisor, James C. Lautner declared the resolution adopted.

  
Shirley I. Mikowski  
Solon Township Clerk



Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary  
Resolution No. 2023-02-09-3  
Township of Solon

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 41.95 authorizes the Township Board of Solon Township to determine the salaries for the offices of Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Trustee for the fiscal year 2023-2024 by adopting a resolution for each office at least 30 days prior to the Township Annual Meeting of the electors, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) is warranted in consideration of the increase in the cost of living and/or additional responsibilities undertaken by the (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) since the Township Board members' salaries were last adjusted, now

BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2023, the salary of the office of (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) shall be as follows:

Supervisor:

Treasurer:

Clerk: \$19,000.00

Trustee:

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be submitted to the electors at the Annual Meeting to be held on March 25, 2023, at which time the electors may modify these amounts. Pursuant to MCL 41.95(7), such modification(s) that may be made by the electors cannot result in a reduction of salary during an official's term of office unless the responsibilities and requirements of that office are diminished, and the official agrees in writing to that reduction. In the event that the electors fail to act on this resolution, the officer shall be entitled to the salary as established in this resolution, accordance with the state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, adopted on February 9, 2023 is properly adopted by Solon Township Board at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, as required by law.

This resolution offered by board member Joan Gauthier

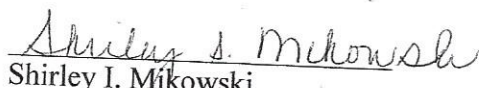
Supported by board member Jim Lautner

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted:

Pat Deering-aye, Steve Yoder-aye, James Lautner-aye, Joan Gauthier-aye, Shirley Mikowski-aye, 5-ayes and 0-nays

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2023 the Township Board adopted a resolution to hold the Township Annual meeting on March 25, 2023, and

The Supervisor, James C. Lautner declared the resolution adopted.

  
Shirley I. Mikowski  
Solon Township Clerk

Resolution to Establish Township Officers Salary  
Resolution No. 2023-02-09-4  
Township of Solon

WHEREAS, Michigan Compiled Law 41.95 authorizes the Township Board of Solon Township to determine the salaries for the offices of Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and Trustee for the fiscal year 2023-2024 by adopting a resolution for each office at least 30 days prior to the Township Annual Meeting of the electors, and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems that an adjustment in the salary of the office of (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) is warranted in consideration of the increase in the cost of living and/or additional responsibilities undertaken by the (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) since the Township Board members' salaries were last adjusted, now

BE IT RESOLVED, that as of April 1, 2023, the salary of the office of (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer or Trustee) shall be as follows:

Supervisor:

Treasurer:

Clerk:

Trustee: \$105.00 per diem

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be submitted to the electors at the Annual Meeting to be held on March 25, 2023, at which time the electors may modify these amounts. Pursuant to MCL 41.95(7), such modification(s) that may be made by the electors cannot result in a reduction of salary during an official's term of office unless the responsibilities and requirements of that office are diminished, and the official agrees in writing to that reduction. In the event that the electors fail to act on this resolution, the officer shall be entitled to the salary as established in this resolution, accordance with the state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution, adopted on February 9, 2023 is properly adopted by Solon Township Board at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, as required by law.

This resolution offered by board member Jim Lautner

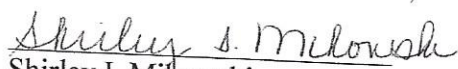
Supported by board member Steve Yoder

Upon a roll call vote, the following voted:

Pat Deering-aye, Steve Yoder-aye, James Lautner-aye, Joan Gauthier-aye, Shirley Mikowski-aye,  
5-ayes and 0-nays

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2023 the Township Board adopted a resolution to hold the Township Annual meeting on March 25, 2023, and

The Supervisor, James C. Lautner declared the resolution adopted.

  
Shirley I. Mikowski  
Solon Township Clerk